THE RESILIENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND (RCIF)

Resilient Cities Network is the world’s leading urban resilience network building a safer and more equitable world.

We bring together global knowledge, practice, partnerships, and funding to empower our member cities. Arm in arm with those cities, we help them build a safer, more equitable, and sustainable future for all their residents.

Our network is city-led, impact-focused, regionally-driven and partnership-based.

We are a unique membership of 98 cities and Chief Resilience Officers, driving for equitable resilience around the globe.

Resilient Cities Network will raise funds for the RCIF, targeting a minimum fund size of $10 million USD, to be put towards prioritized resilience projects that are small to medium scale and can further leverage funding on the ground from key financing and grant making stakeholders.

To make catalytic grants to prioritized small and medium scale local resilience projects around the globe that further leverage funding on the ground, jumpstart projects, and increase holistic resilience impact for vulnerable populations. Initial rounds of RCIF will highlight equity and resilient recovery from COVID-19, while aligning to our overall urban resilience goals and thematic pathways.

The Windward Fund, directed by Arabella Advisors, will partner with Resilient Cities Network, assisting with grant disbursements, fundraising, as well as serving on the inaugural RCIF Advisory Board.

The initial phase of fundraising and funds disbursement will focus on projects and programs prioritized by CROs and cities themselves, as well as the thematic action areas created by Resilient Cities Network, its Global Steering Committee of CROs, and the RCIF Advisory Board.

Projects will also be “right sized” to create catalytic grant funding to allow the necessary leverage of additional funds and their preparation for larger projects.

Recent CRO and city input to the RCIF design highlighted projects for a “resilient recovery” from Covid-19 and initiatives that focus on equity building and underserved populations, economic resilience and small business, public spaces, public health systems, and critical infrastructure - all with an ongoing emphasis in holistic equitable resilience and “bouncing forward”.

The Resilient Community Impact Fund (RCIF) will use a leveraged funding model to encourage support for the Fund directly and incentivize local matching investment. One of the key mechanisms of the Fund is to push funding into cities and projects in at least two primary ways:

1. Layer 1: Fund level
   - The Resilient Community Impact Fund (RCIF)
   - Financial institutions, development agencies (global/regional)
   - Matching the original seed funding with grants to create the larger managed fund that, in turn, can encourage other grantmakers and investors to flow to member cities and resilience projects.

2. Layer 2: Local level
   - Program & mission related investors, foundations (localized)
   - Community financial institutions, micro funds, loan funds, banks, credit unions, VC (localized)
   - Impact Investors (localized)

Layering additional funding at the local level from partners on the ground, moving grant and/or investment dollars into those same projects and city types.

**PRIORITIZED PROJECTS**

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The RCIF Model

Layer 1

- Other funds (global/regional)
- The Resilient Community Impact Fund (RCIF) (matching funds to min $10M USD)
- Financial institutions, development agencies (global/regional)

Cities & Projects “DEALS”
- Budget
- Bonds
- Incentives
- Guarantees, Federal Funds, Stimulus

Layer 2

- Program & mission related investors, foundations (localized)
- Community financial institutions, micro funds, loan funds, banks, credit unions, VC (localized)
- Impact Investors (localized)

RCIF@resilientcitiesnetwork.org
resilientcitiesnetwork.org

For a safe and equitable world